Vol. II. Numb. 53.

The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

From Friday September 23d. to Wednesday September 28th. 1709.

N. B. WHereas ſome complain in St. *James's, Weſtminſter*, &c. that they receive their Papers late, which is occaſion'd by the Numbers our Servants deliver, to remedy which (when the Gentry are more come to Town) we deign to make another Diviſion. Whereas alſo ſome Letters have been loſt, occaſion'd by ſuch Quantities deliver'd at a few Places, likewiſe Queſtions daily ſent which have been anſwer'd, to prevent which trouble to the Senders and our ſelves, we are preparing Indexes fix'd on Boards, to be plac'd at the Principal Coffee-houſes (which we ſhall conſtantly publiſh) to the end the Neighbourhood may reſort thither. to ſee if their Queſtions are anſwer'd, where alſo Letters will be taken in.

Q. *Gentlemen, I am Fatherleſs and Motherleſs, and have no Manner of Employment, whereby to get my Living. I have a very Rich God-father, but he Takes no manner of Notice of me. I would know whether he is oblig'd in Conſcience to do for me. Anſwer this as ſoon as you can, and you'll oblige Your Humble Servant and Subſcriber*, I an. B.

A. 'Tis true, your God-father Expreſly oblig'd himſelf no farther, at your Baptiſmal Initiation into the Church of Chriſt, than to take care of your Religious Education, to take care; that you ſhou'd be Nurtur'd *in the Admonition of the Lord*. But however no more than this might be Expreſly mention'd, yet a farther Obligation was Tacitly, was Conſequentially Implied. For if by the whole Tenor of the Goſpel he be Indiſpenſably Oblig'd to *do Good unto All Men, and eſpecially to thoſe of the Houſehold of Faith*, how much more is he oblig'd to do Good to one, to whoſe Admittance into the Houſehold of Faith he was Himſelf an Inſtrument? If he be abſolutely Bound (as moſt aſſuredly he is) to Relieve the Neceſſities of Perfect Strangers, how much more is he Bound to Relieve the Neceſſities of a Perſon, to whom he bears a Spiritual Relation? A Relation, which in ſome ſenſe, unleſs he Honorably acquit himſelf, will bring him under that Apoſtolical Cenſure; *He, that Provideth not for his Own, has Denied the Faith, and is Worſe than an Infidel.* Nay, his very Care of your Religious Education Engages him to have a juſt regard to your Temporal Concerns, leſt your Uneaſy Circumſtances ſhou'd Tempt you to go Aſtray; leſt your Preſſing Neceſſities ſhou'd Betray you to Unwarrantable Methods of Avoiding Poverty; leſt you ſhou'd Barter your Soul for the Suſtenance of your Body, and with Profane *Eſau*, as the Apoſtle ſtiles him, ſell your Birthright for a Meſs of Pottage. And tho' he was Diſcharg'd from the Strictneſs of his Obligation, as ſoon as you arriv'd at Years of Diſcretion, yet he cannot look upon himſelf as ſo Completely Diſcharg'd, as that he may be entirely Careleſs, whether you Perform your Duty, or whether you Forbear. But were his Diſcharge never ſo Compleat, yet a Man of Conſcience, a Man Zealous for his Maker's Honor, a Man Tenderly concern'd for the Welfare of his Fellow-Creatures, can never be Willing, that the Fruits of his former Care ſhou'd prove Abortive, that one, whom he himſelf had endeavour'd to make a Child of God, ſhou'd, for want of His Aſſiſtance, unfortunately become a Child of Hell. Unleſs therefore he ſettle you in ſome Honeſt Livelihood (ſince he is ſo Capable of doing it) and Enable you, according to that Excellent Catechiſm, which he either took care that you were Taught, or at leaſt *Shou'd* have done it, Enable you to *Labor truly and get your own Living, and to do your Duty in that State of Life, unto which it ſhall pleaſe God to call you*; unleſs he make this Neceſſary Proviſion for You (in Caſe he has not Subſtantial Reaſons, which You may have Conceal'd, for a Contrary Behavior) he can never Expect to to *make to himſelf Friends of the Mammon of Unrighteouſneſs*, as *that, when* He *Fails* (or Dies, as the Original Imports) *They may Receive* Him *into Everlaſting Habitations.*

Q. *Gentlemen, Your moſt Learned Opinion is deſired, about a Wager*, viz. *Whether it is good* Engliſh *to ſay*, Torrid Weather *for* Sultry hot Weather, *as well as to ſay* Torrid Zone. *In ſo doing you'll Oblige Your Admirer*, J. C.

A. That Particular Zone, which is uſually call'd the *Torrid Zone*, is call'd Torrid with reſpect to it's Reception of Heat. For Torrid ſignifies Parch'd. Whereas Weather is ſaid to be Sultry Hot with reſpect

ſpect to it's Communication of Heat. But were Torrid of the ſame Import with Sultry *Torrid Weather* wou'd be True *Engliſh* indeed, but not Good Engliſh, becauſe not Warranted by the Authority of Cuſtom, from whence Language, as *Horace* obſerves, receives the Stamp of Currency.

Q. *What is the reaſon, that the moſt Ignorant and Illiterate Perſons are, generally ſpeaking, the moſt ready to Pry into the Private Buſineſs and Secret Affairs of their Neighbours.*

A. As Man is naturally Enclin'd to be Inquiſitive, ſo no wonder, that he ſhou'd be ſo, ſince Inquiſitiveneſs was the Unhappy Occaſion of his Fall. Our Mother *Eve* was Inquiſitive in a State of Innocence, and Propagated her Inquiſitiveneſs in a State of Sin. But this Inquiſitiveneſs of Nature ſo Intimate to Man, if duly applied, if Circumſcrib'd within Proper Limits, is an Uſeful, is a Neceſſary Quality. It quickens our Induſtry in Commendable Enquiries, it Spurs us on to ſearch after Uſeful Knowledg, and is extremely Inſtrumental to the Advancement of Learning, to the Improvement of Arts and Sciences. Were it not for this Natural Inquiſitiveneſs, this Domeſtick Exhortor, this Never-Abſent Incentive, Men wou'd be more Backward, than they are, to Study for the the Acquirement of Truth; Truth, which like a Coy, like a Baſhful Virgin, is too ready to fly our moſt Diligent Purſuit; Truth, which is no Superficial thing, which lies Deep, and cannot be attain'd unto, unleſs we Dig, as it were, in the Mines for it. But then a proper Portion of Judgment is requir'd to Enable us to Determin within our ſelves, what is the proper Object of this Inquiſitiveneſs, of this Innate Thirſt after Knowledg. And therefore no wonder, that where Judgment is wanting, that where there is a Shallow, a Weak Capacity, this Unguided Inmate ſhou'd engage ſo many in ſuch Vain Purſuits, in ſuch Frivolous Searches, in ſuch Impertinent Enquiries. Men of narrow Intellects are Unfraught with more Noble Ideas, with more Sublime Conceptions. And therefore we cannot think it ſtrange, that they ſhou'd greedily Embrace leſs Worthy, or rather Unworthy Objects of Knowledg. They, who never Taſted of Dainties, are generally the moſt Contented with Homely Fare. Nay, They, who are Incapable of Reliſhing Dainties, do conſequently give the Preference to Homely Fare. The Capacity of the Underſtanding bears a near reſemblance to the Capacity of a Barrel, which, unleſs Replete with ſomething more Subſtantial, readily Receives the Circumambient Air.

Not but that there have been ſome of very Extraordinary Attainments, who have been impleaded guilty of the like Impertinence. *Adrian*, for inſtance, tho' a Roman Emperor, tho' a Prince of Wonderful Parts, of Uncommon Learning, was yet of ſo Inquiſitive a Temper as to Pry into the Secrets of the moſt Deſpicable Families. But as it is a Saying not more Common than True, that all Men have their Blind Sides, ſo This was His.

Q. *A certain Woman ſeized of a certain parcel of Inheritance*, &c.——*and ſo is forc'd to deſiſt at Common-Law. Query, whether he (a Perſon before ſpecify'd) may be reliev'd in Equity*, &c.

A. Since the Premiſes are in ſuch ill Circumſtances, we think it not worth his while to prefer his Bill, but for better Advice, we refer him to ſome able Counſellor, He will meet with but few, who have not been concern'd in ſuch Affairs. We preſuming this was our Queriſt's *Particular Caſe*, thought it needleſs to Publiſh it at length.

Q. *Do you not contradict your ſelves in placing* Pryn *and* Withers *in the Realms of Nonſenſe, after you allow ſome of the Diſſenters to be Men of as great Learning as any.*

A. The Poem, in which they were inſerted, was ſent us, but we think it is ſo far from reflecting on the Learning and Principles of a Party, to mention ſome of them to be bad *Poets*, that we think it not the leaſt Reflection on the Learning and Principles of the Perſons themſelves ſpecify'd. For it were abſurd to conclude one a Dunce, or an ill Man, becauſe not a Good Poet.

Q. *Gentlemen, 'Tis the Opinion of all Men of ſenſe, that the Author of the* Female Tatler *is the moſt unthinking Scribler that ever writ, and is always makeing Rods for himſelf. He pretends to reflect on a* Publick Notary, *by Pointing him out to be the Author of the Lines Sign'd* J. B. *when they are univerſally allow'd to contain more true* Wit *and* Thought, *than all that* Tatler's *Papers, who wou'd be proud to have them paſs for his own. But what a wretched Burgler he expoſes himſelf at Characters in naming* Polices, *when all but that Dunce know, that thoſe are as Foreign to that Gentleman's Employ, as Wit, Senſe and good Manners are to the Deſign of his own Papers. 'Tis pleaſant to hear him Prattle of Counſellors, Attornies, Scriveners*, &c. *yet be ignorant whoſe Buſineſs 'tis to draw* Polices. *If he takes ſuch Vanity in his Performances, how much may the two Apprentices in* Cheapſide *and one near* Ludgate *take, who 'tis ſaid, furniſh him with all his fine Intelligence. But 'tis too groſs for Ridicule, to find him conſtantly on one ſide the Paper, ſay,* By a Lady that knows every thing, *and on the other,* By a Lady that knows nothing, *ſince She is always begging Information. I hear now, that his Papers are ſo hiſs'd out of all Coffee-houſes, that he is writing his Farewell to an Ill-natur'd World, who will be no longer impos'd upon, with wretched Ribaldry for Wit. Pray, your Opinion on his laſt.*

A. Sir, We loſe no time on the reading his Papers, ſince we hear from all Gentlemen of ſenſe, that it only juſt peep'd into the World by the Vertue of a Borrow'd Title, and is vaniſh'd from their Notice already.

We deſire the Gentleman, whoſe Letter begins *Fountain of flowing and Wondrous Eloquence*, &c. to abbreviate his Queſtion, or divide it into ſeveral Articles.

POEMS.

Q. *IN kindeſt, beſt, and all Seraphick Strains,*
You liberally inſtruct our needy Mind,
And with perſuaſive Truth our Griefs compoſe.
I amongſt all your Queriſts moſt oblig'd,
My unpolite, yet grateful Thanks return.
But, how can I my Numbers recommend,
Or bring my Words and Thoughts to correſpond?
My Language with my Learning muſt agree,
Which ne'er was more than Country School-dame taught,
Scarce to a Modern Hiſtory advanc'd,
Or by one right Poetick Flight improv'd.
If, then, my Soul a Vulgar Thought Surmounts,
Thank Heav'n and You, which have that Light produc'd
You grant ſo much, I wou'd no more propound,
But, if a friendly Charm remains behind,
Wiſh Gloriana *may be ever kind,*
To Hers, and Yours, Cynthia.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

A. We've oft obſerv'd your various Turns of Thought,
Soft and yet Nervous, Natural, yet Polite;
Which,

Which, ſince alone they from your *Genius* flow,
How pow'rful wou'd they be, with Lit'rature
And borrow'd Epithets, grac'd and adorn'd,
To which our Sex are forc'd to have Recourſe.
Yet *Gloriana* muſt be ever kind;
Had She not *Worth*, She'd never been your Choice,
And that known *Worth* muſt hold her faſt to you.
To emulate in *FRIENDSHIP* may you ſtrive,
And may *That*, like your *Vertues*, ever Live.

APOLLO,

Q. *I'd lately in my Head a Notion,*
Which work'd and rumbled like a Potion,
And had a mighty Straining Bout,
To get the wond'rous Notion out.
For wond'rous Births hard Labor Ask,
And Labor is an Irkſome Task.
At length it Came, but did ſo maul
My Head, as if't brought Brains and all.
By this time you're in a Quondary,
To know what Burden they might carry:
But I'll not hold you long in Pain,
And thus deliver'd was my Brain.
You know the Dearth of Bread is great,
And threatens with a lingring Fate,
Which ſo much drains the Rich Men's Store,
They have not to relieve the Poor.
To Knaves and Fools You alſo know,
But ſmall Regard the others owe.
Therefore, I'd have them in foul Weather,
Ship'd far off, 'tis no matter whither,
And then full Plenty to ſuffice
(There'd be) the Honeſt and the Wiſe.
Nay, ſay, Apollo, *i'n't the Thought*
The beſt e'er to your Shrine was brought.

A. To Labor for our Country's Good,
The Nobleſt Thought is underſtood;
But they who 'gainſt their Int'reſt ſtrive,
Illuſtrious Preſidents to give;
Who risk their Lives to ſave the Nation,
This is the brighteſt Illuſtration.
Thus you've condemn'd the Knaves and Fools
(Your ſelf too by the ſelf ſame Rules)
To wander 'tis no matter where
(Nor if their Company you bear)
For this Thought, tho' not worth the ſtealing,
You pilfer'd, like a *Knave*, concealing
The Theft, and then the *Fool*'s confeſs'd,
In that it is no better dreſs'd.

Q. *Ye Learned* Magi *of the Delphick Race,*
Solve my Enigma *with Propitious grace*;
And tell me, *why 'tis now, and not before,*
That I can pleaſe the Goddeſs I adore.

A. Till now you ne'er might write ſuch Lines as (theſe,
And how is't poſſible, but they muſt pleaſe.

Gentlemen, *Be pleas'd to inſert the following Lines in Defence of the* Female Tatler.

METhinks 'tis very Barbarous,
A *Toothleſs Cur* to worry thus;
To ſhew ſuch Violence and Spite,
To one that Grins but cannot Bite.
To Bait him each day in your Papers,
Why, 'twill give all the Town the Vapors.
If ever Man in Grief and Pain,
He's ſurely reaſon to Complain.
Kick'd Bully never, nor Bilk'd Whore,
Was us'd ſo Scurvily before.
What, tho' he ſometimes mauls the Cit,
Han't they diſown'd him for a *Wit*.
When he Laconicly Harangu'd,
What did he get, but being bang'd?
It's Sire from them got an Eſtate,
He only got a Broken Pate;
Turn'd out to Graſs from all Demiſals,
Who'll blame him then to make Reprizals?
And Damn them all in his Defence,
Since they firſt Damn'd his *Wit* and *Senſe*.
Tho' lately He Lampoon'd poor * *Jinny*,
She firſt caſhir'd him for a Ninny,
And whilſt He made his Vi'lent Court,
She made the Cheated Oaph her Sport;
Well knowing what's Eſtate contains,
Was but an Ounce or two of Brains.
If he reflects on *Nicket*'s Scores,
She'd Kick his Papers out of Doors.
Nay, if he has *your ſelves* abus'd,
Yet even that may be excus'd,
Becauſe the Luſter of your Light,
Makes him appear the Bird of Night.
Beſides, whatever He ſhall write,
There is not one can ſuffer by't,
So wide his Thoughts † *ſuch as Men ſmatter,*
When they throw out and Miſs the Matter,
That not one Perſon in the Town,
Can by his Characters be known;
But when He names them in his Lines,
As Men were wont to do on Signs;
Yet all that then he does rehearſe,
Appears exactly the Reverſe.
Ceaſe then, in Pity ceaſe to Laſh
Such wicked Senſe, ſuch Balderdaſh;
Ah! Ceaſe, the Miſerable Wretch,
Is juſt upon his lateſt Stretch,
Arriv'd upon the utmoſt Brink
Of Ruin, and begins to Stink.

* *A Lady he lately abus'd.* † Hudibras.

In laſt Paper, Col. 5. L. 41. for *Conſcience*, r. *a Conſcience.*

Any may have the Quarterly Books *with the Muſick in them, or moſt of the other Single Papers to make up Sets, or* Indexes *to the Firſt Volume, to find what Queſtions have been anſwer'd (by directing to the Printers) brought home to their Houſes.*

SIR,

THE Advices from the Hague Sept. 24th are, that the Commiſſaries appointed to examin the Ships coming from the Baltick, for preventing the ſpreading of the Plague raging in Dantzick, have ſignify'd, that thoſe Ships are not in the leaſt infected with any Diſtemper, and therefore they are permitted to proceed from the Texel to their reſpective Harbors; but thoſe which came directly from Dantzick are to continue there ſome time longer, notwithſtanding it appears, that they came away from thence before the Plague begun there. That the Deputies of the States General have had ſeveral Conferences with ſome Members of the Council of State to conſider of the moſt Effectual Means for the ſpeedy recruiting the Forces in their Service, and reſolv'd to proceed therein without delay. In Order to which, the Council of State is to prepare an exact Liſt of the Number of Men they want, and Money for the ſaid Recruits is to be iſſued out as ſoon as that Liſt is perfected: That the ſaid Council of State is order'd to Negociate another Sum of Money, for the Neceſſary Charge of the further Operations of this Campaign and the repairing the Fortifications of Tournay: That the States having taken into their Conſideration the Great Services of Major General Vander Beck, have promoted him to the Dignity of Lieutenant General of Foot, in the Room of Count Oxenſtern, who was kill'd in the Late Battle, and are reſolv'd to promote ſome other Officers, who have in a particular manner ſignaliz'd themſelves in that Glorious Action.

The Letters from Plymouth Sept. 23d Adviſe, that on the 21ſt came in Her Majeſty's Ship the Plymouth from Cruiſing, that She has Taken and Brought in a French Man of War of 44 Guns and about 300 Men, which yielded after an hour and half's Diſpute; that the Captain of the French Man of War is kill'd, and likewiſe about 50 of her Men are kill'd or wounded; and on board the Plymouth, the Captain of the Marines and ſeven Men kill'd and about eleven wounded; That in the Evening came in Her Majeſty's Ships the Rumney and Auguſt from Cruiſing. Which is all from Yours, *&c.*

All are deſired to direct their Letters (Superſcrib'd for the *Britiſh Apollo*) to be left at Mr. *Carters*, at the *Roſe* and *Crown* in St. *Paul's Church-yard*, at Mr. *Bickerton's*, at the *Roſe* and *Crown* in *Little Britain*, or at the Printers hereof; either with Queſtions, Subſcriptions, or for Indexes to our firſt Volume, which contains between 2 and 3000 Anſwers to Queſtions, for we ſhall not take notice of ſuch Queſtions again as have been anſwer'd therein. Our Rates are, 2 *s. per* Quarter for the Weekly. 2 *s.* 6 *d*, with the Monthly, and the Quarterly Books 6 *d.* apiece. Thoſe who come in within the Quarter, to pay at Quarter-day 1 *d.* apiece for each they have had. No Queſtions out of the Country will be anſwer'd but where the Poſtage is paid.

Books of Guards for keeping the Papers in at 2 *s.* each, and Single Sheets to make up Sets, may be had on directing as above.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

AS it would be no leſs diſreſpectful that injurious to the Pulick to conceal the Merits of Mr. *Grant*, OCULIST. This is therefore to certify, that I *William Dixon*, now a Penſioner in Her Majeſty's Royal Hoſpital at *Chelſea*, aged 67 Years, having ſeveral Years loſt my Sight by *Cataracts*, and ſubmitted my ſelf to be couched of both Eyes ſome Years ago, but without Succeſs; but hearing of the many rare Cures perform'd by the aforeſaid Mr. *Grant*, I made my Application to him, who thro' the Bleſſing of God couched both my Eyes, and reſtored me to Sight in Five Minutes. Which Operation was perform'd *Gratis*. To the Truth of which I am ready to make Oath. Witneſs my Hand, *William Dixon.*

LOST from a Lady's Side, coming out of the Play-houſe, on the 22d Inſtant, a Gold Watch with a Cypher on the Caſe, *A. R.* Whoever brings it to *Tho. Hudſon*, Eſq; in *Great Marlborough-ſtreet*, ſhall have 4 Guineas Reward.

THE only True Purging Eſſential Salt of Scurvy-Grals, the pleaſanteſt Phyſick in the World, which effectually eradicates that reigning Diſeaſe: It purges gently by Stool, never Vomits, but works pleaſant, free, and eaſie, without Sickneſs, or almoſt any Diſorder: It cools and refreſhes Nature, cleanſes the Body and Blood of all Filth, corroborates both, invigorates the Spirits, reſtores loſt Stomachs, carries off the Remains of bad Wines, and is immediately neceſſary on all Occaſions that require Purging: It's needleſs to ſay, it cures the Scurvy, Gout, Rheumatiſm, Dropſy, Jaundice, Green ſickneſs, Hypocondriac Melancholly, *&c.* for it opens all Obſtructions in the Liver, Spleen and Gall. Powerfully reſiſts Putrefaction, is Diuretick, helps Digeſtion, kills Worms, and brings them away both in Children and adult Perſons. Is only Sold by Mr. Harriſon, at a Wax Chandlers's at the White Hart in the Poultry; and at Mrs. Cole's, at the Dial and Two Crowns, Toyſhop, againſt St Dunſton's Church, Fleet-ſtreet at 1 *s.* an Ounce, Seal'd up with Printed Directions.

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Licentia Poetica diſcuſs'd: Or, the True Teſt of Poetry. Without which it is Impoſſible to *Judge of*, or *Compoſe*, A Correct Engliſh Poem: To which are added, *Critical Obſervations* on the Principal, Ancient and Modern Poets, viz. *Homer*, *Horace*, *Virgil*, *Milton*, *Waller*, *Cowley*, *Dryden*, &c as frequently liable to Juſt Cenſure. With ſome Remarks alſo on my Lord Duke of *Marlborough*'s and Maj. Gen. *Stanhope*'s Letters Commendatory of the Earl of *Peterborow*'s Valor and Conduct in *Spain*, as the occaſional Ground for an Excellent Epic Poem. *London*; Printed for *William Carter*, at the *Roſe* and *Crown* in St. *Paul's Churchyard*, 1709.

READY Money for any Parcel or Library of Books, in all Languages and Faculties whatever; likewiſe Books Exchang'd and lent to Read, by *Tho. Bickerton*, at the *Roſe* and *Crown* next the Gate-way leading into the *Blue-Coat Hoſpital* by the Pump in *Little-Britain*.

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